

## Testimony to the Housing Committee March 1, 2012 Support for Raised Senate Bill #94: AN ACT CONCERNING THE EQUAL TREATMENT OF RENTERS WITH MENTAL DISABILITIES. By Nora Duncan, Executive Director

The Arc Connecticut is a 60-year old advocacy organization committed to protecting the rights of people with intellectual, cognitive, and developmental disabilities and to promoting opportunities for their full inclusion in the life of their communities.

We support the added protections for renters "with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities and who has a record of such impairment or is regarded as having such an impairment" that Raised Senate Bill #94 proposes. While the language in statute is not totally in keeping with the respectful language that The Arc Connecticut supports, the purpose of clarifying certain protections under state housing law for persons with disabilities certainly is and we are happy to support the bill.

Thanks you for your efforts and please do not hesitate to call upon The Arc Connecticut for more information or further clarification of our position.

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